

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 315 365 to Wright in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,777,591 to Katoh et al. (hereinafter Katoh).

Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright and Katoh as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,907,314 to Negishi et al. (Negishi).

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are improper and therefore should be withdrawn. Accordingly, claims 1-6 remain pending for further consideration.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright in view of Katoh. Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright and Katoh as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Negishi. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for at least the following reasons.

With respect to independent claims 1 and 4, Applicant respectfully submits that Wright, Katoh and Negishi, whether taken singly or combined, do not teach or suggest the claimed

combination including at least a feature of “a plurality of first switching devices in the gate lines such that each gate line is provided with at least one of the plurality of first switching devices, the plurality of first switching devices being provided for switching a driving mode of the plurality of liquid crystal cells to either a divisional driving mode or a non-divisional driving mode.”

The Office Action concedes that Wright does not disclose the above-mentioned feature but relies upon Katoh to teach “a LCD display panel having a plurality of display cells, wherein the display panel is separated into two-matrices between the column electrodes.” Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the teachings of Katoh do not cure the deficiencies of Wright.

In contrast to the claimed invention, Katoh, as described at lines 52-60 of col. 2 for example, merely discloses first switching means for allowing the data signal to be applied to the corresponding pixel bases on the scanning signal and second switching means for controlling a timing for allowing the data signal to be applied to the corresponding pixel. Applicant respectfully submits that Katoh neither teaches nor suggests the claimed first switching means in the gate lines for switching a driving mode of the plurality of liquid crystal cells to either a divisional driving mode or a non-divisional driving mode. Applicant respectfully asserts that the first and second switching means of Katoh do not meet the limitations of the first switching devices, as claimed in independent claims 1 and 4. Similarly, Negishi does not cure the deficiencies of Wright and Katoh.

As pointed by MPEP § 2143.03 instructs that "[t]o establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 409 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)." Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness and that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are improper.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn because Wright, Katoh and Negishi, whether taken singly or combined, fail to teach or suggest each feature of independent claims 1 and 4. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejections of dependent claims 2-3 and 5-6 should also be withdrawn at least because of their respective dependencies upon independent claims 1 and 4.

With no other rejection pending, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-6 are in condition for allowance.

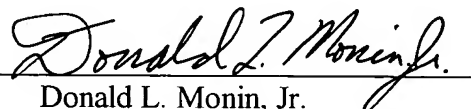
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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